

A NOTE ON THE SECONDARY SEXUAL CHARACTERS OF OMOPHRON.

BY ROLAND HAYWARD, BOSTON, MASS.

While recently engaged in studying some specimens of *Omophron americanum*, my attention was attracted to the fact that in the males of this species the second joint of the middle tarsi is very distinctly dilated. The fact being new to me I was led to examine our other species in order to ascertain whether or not the character was common to all those occurring within our faunal limits. As a result I find that the North American species may be divided into two groups based upon this character. In the first the second joint of the middle tarsi is dilated; in the second it is simple as in the female. To the first may be referred the majority of our species, i. e.: *labiatum*, *nitidum*, *obliteratum*, *dentatum*, *americanum*, *tesselatum*, and *ovale*, while but two of those

that I have been able to study, i. e.: *gile* and *robustum*, are referable to the second, Casey's species, *concinnum*, *solidum*, and *gemma* are unknown to me in nature.

The extent of dilation varies somewhat in the different species, being most marked in *nitidum* and apparently feeblest in *tesselatum*.

I have searched the books in vain for any mention of this character. All agree in stating that the first two joints of the anterior tarsi are dilated in the males, but I can find no reference to the middle tarsi of that sex differing from those of the female. It is not uncommon for this character to occur in certain groups of the subfamily *Harpalinae*, but I am not aware of its existence elsewhere in the *Carabinae*.

A PRELIMINARY SKETCH OF THE SPHINGICAMPIDAE, A NEW GROUP OF PROTOSPHINGINE LEPIDOPTERA, WITH ITS SUBDIVISIONS. — I.

BY A. S. PACKARD, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

After prolonged studies on a number of genera heretofore associated with the Saturniidae, I have come to the conclusion, as indicated in *PSYCHE*, Dec., 1901, p. 279, that they should be re-

moved from that family and placed in a new family, or superfamily, group, which we may designate *Sphingicampidae*, from the most ancestral and typical genus, *Sphingicampa*. I should prefer to give

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